



STATE OF WASHINGTON

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

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*TDD Relay Service: 1-800-833-6388*

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### **Additional Health Information on Foray 48B**

Some Seattle residents have raised questions about inert ingredients in Foray 48B, the pesticide to be used against gypsy moths in Vader. To address health concerns, Washington Department of Health (DOH) has looked at the ingredients of Foray 48B.

People have asked why some of the ingredients in Foray 48B are not revealed. Valent Biosciences, the maker of Foray 48B, has refused to release the full list of ingredients to the public. Federal law allows them to withhold the names of ingredients in pesticide products that they consider trade secrets. Active ingredients (such as Btk) must be printed on the label. Under “worker right-to-know” laws, chemicals that are considered hazardous to health<sup>1</sup> must be listed on the Foray 48B’s Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) if they are present in the mixture at 1% or more. Other ingredients may qualify as confidential business information and be protected from public disclosure.

The manufacturer of Foray 48B has allowed a state public health official to look at the list of ingredients in Foray 48B. DOH reviewed the list to look for any ingredients that might not qualify as hazardous enough to be listed on the MSDS but might be of concern to individuals in the general public. We have done this review.

Most of the ingredients in Foray 48B are on the Food and Drug Administration’s list of substances “Generally Recognized As Safe.” All are approved for use on food. The product contains some food residues, food additives and preservatives. Several large health monitoring studies have looked for and not seen an increase in significant allergic reactions following spraying with Foray 48B. As a precaution, people with severe allergies to food or food additives may want to consult their doctor about exposure to the spray. DOH can’t disclose the ingredients to the public, but health care providers may call the company directly for consultation about specific allergic concerns. The concentrated product has been shown to cause mild eye, skin, and respiratory irritation in some professional sprayers exposed to large amounts. Irritant symptoms in the general public are unlikely.

If you have an illness that you think is related to the spraying or would like to speak with the toxicologist who reviewed the inert ingredients, contact Barbara Morrissey at DOH toll free at (888) 586-9427.

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<sup>1</sup> see this website <http://www.lni.wa.gov/wisha/regs/WACS/62/62c.htm> for the criteria of what is considered “hazardous to health”

**Resources for health information:**

Lewis County Public Health	Steve Garret	(360) 740-1233
Washington State Department of Health Email	Barbara Morrissey Barbara.Morrissey@doh.wa.gov	(888) 586-9427
National Pesticide Information Center	npic@ace.orst.edu	(800) 858-7378
For copy of Label and MSDS Foray 48B label Foray 48B MSDS	Moth hotline <a href="http://www.cdms.net/ldat/ld18K003.pdf">http://www.cdms.net/ldat/ld18K003.pdf</a> <a href="http://www.cdms.net/ldat/mp18K000.pdf">http://www.cdms.net/ldat/mp18K000.pdf</a>	(800) 443-6684

**Assistance for health care providers:**

Dr. Dan Sudakin	National Pesticide Information Ctr.	(541) 737-8969
WA Poison Center		(800) 222-1222
Valent Bioscience	Medical assistance line	(877) 315-9819

**Reminder of Health recommendations for Gypsy Moth Spraying**

The Washington Department of Health (DOH) and the Lewis County Public Health Department recommend that people in the area to be sprayed minimize exposure by doing the following:

1. Stay indoors for at least 30 minutes after the spraying to allow droplets to settle.
2. Wait until the spray has dried before letting skin touch the treated leaves and bushes.
3. Wash skin with soap and water if you come in contact with the spray.
4. People in the sprayed area can sign up with the Department of Agriculture (800-443-6684) to be notified the day before spraying.

**Special health concerns:** It is possible that individuals with certain health conditions may be more sensitive to the spray. If you have asthma, severe allergies to food or food preservatives, or immune disorders, you may want to stay indoors longer or leave the sprayed area during the day of treatment. We encourage people with special health concerns to talk with their personal doctor for advice.